

COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Background

1. This report provides Members with a correspondence update report and provides Members with the 'Funding of Parks' Inquiry draft report, for discussion, amendment and approval.

Correspondence update

2. Following most Committee meetings, the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered.
3. At the Committee meeting on 8 March 2018, Members received a report detailing the correspondence sent and received this municipal year. Members requested that scrutiny officers seek an update regarding the awaited response from GLL Leisure Centre Partnership to the queries raised by service users, following scrutiny at Committee on 7 December 2017. A verbal update on this will be provided at the Committee meeting.
4. Attached as **Appendix A** is a correspondence schedule which provides an update since 8 March 2018, containing the following information:
 - i. Date the letters were sent;
 - ii. To whom the letter was addressed;
 - iii. The key recommendations set out in the Chair's letters;
 - iv. Date the response was received; and
 - v. The response of the Cabinet Member(s) to those recommendations.

5. The schedule attached at **Appendix A** shows:
 - i. *Response Received* – from Councillor Goodway to the Chair’s letter following scrutiny of updated proposals re the Bus Station and Central Train Station, considered at Committee on 7 December 2017.
 - ii. *Response Received* – from Councillor Goodway to the Chair’s letter following scrutiny of International Sports Village, considered at Committee on 8 March 2018
 - iii. *No Response Required* – from Councillor Thomas to the Chair’s letter following scrutiny of the Joint Working Agreement draft Business Plan (*City Deal*), considered at Committee on 8 March 2018.
 - iv. *Response Awaited* – from Councillor Thomas to the Chair’s letter following scrutiny of Cardiff Central Bus Station, considered at a special Committee meeting on 27 March 2018.

6. Copies of the Chair’s letters and any responses received can be found on the Council’s website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled ‘*correspondence following the committee meeting*’.

Funding of Parks in Cardiff Inquiry

7. Attached at **Appendix B** is a draft report, which details the key findings and recommendations reached by the Committee’s Task Group following their Inquiry into ‘Funding of Parks’.

8. The task group heard evidence from a range of internal and external witnesses, including relevant Cabinet Members, senior officers, officers from relevant departments, Friends of Parks Groups, Innovate Trust Green Days project manager, Cardiff Civic Society, Llandaff Fields Hub Committee and wildlife partner organisations including RSPB, Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales and Buglife Cymru.

9. The task group invited written submissions from sports pitch users and received evidence from Cardiff University Sports Development Officer, Cardiff Combination Football League (Adults) and Chairperson of Pontprennau Pumas Junior and Mini Football Club, Llandaff RFC and Rhiwbina RFC.
10. The task group also received evidence from desk based research looking at approaches taken elsewhere in the U.K., North America and Australia with regard to reducing costs and generating income as well as alternative approaches to funding parks.
11. The evidence was used to identify suitable findings from the Inquiry, which are shown at the front of the document under the headings 'Headline Findings' and 'Key Findings'. The recommendations are based on the evidence heard throughout the Inquiry.

Way Forward

12. During their meeting, Members may wish to:
 - i. reflect on the responses received to the Chair's letter, at **Appendix A**; and
 - ii. discuss and agree any amendments required to the Task Group report 'Funding of Parks', attached at **Appendix B**.

Legal Implications

13. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements

imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- I. Note the content of the consultation schedule attached at **Appendix A**; and
- II. Consider the 'Funding of Parks' task group report, attached at **Appendix B**, and endorse the report, subject to any amendments the Committee wish to make, for submission to the Cabinet.

Davina Fiore

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6 April 2018